

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



Senate Meeting 018-16
March 16, 2016

- 1) Meeting Called to Order—5:03pm
- 2) Opening Prayer—VP Loseille
- 3) VP of Internal Affairs Luella Loseille calls role
- 4) Approval of the Minutes—approved
- 5) Approval of the Agenda
 - a) Motion to suspend Parliamentary Procedure during SB061-16 Presentation
 - b) Motion to suspend Parliamentary Procedure during the Special Business Presentations
- 6) Special Business
 - a) Division of Student Development Aspirations Teams: Ms. Marissa Cope, Lisa Israel, Melinda Carlson, Eric Anderson Update and Presentation from Student Development.
 - i) Multicultural Competence
 - (1) In the Fall, committee worked on developing a shared definition of multicultural competency
 - (2) Self-Understanding: Self-awareness of critical exposures, understanding social and personal identities, exploring relationships among identities, self-care
 - (3) Multicultural dynamics includes empathy, effective communication, commitment to lifelong learning
 - (4) From these core concepts, objectives and learning outcomes were developed
 - (5) Goal is to measure climate of the university in terms of these learning outcomes
 - (6) Going to start looking at programs across the division to see what is working and what is not effective
 - (7) Want students to accept responsibility for their own learning and growth in relation to multicultural competency
 - (8) Want to create a resource center for faculty and staff
 - ii) Residential Education
 - (1) Looked at current residential curriculum and its strengths and weaknesses. Also compared it to other institutions
 - (2) Community development, understanding of self and others, academic capacity, and wellness
 - (a) First four are already included in current curriculum, wellness is missing
 - (3) Community development aims to connect students to residential community, SLU community, and St. Louis community
 - (4) Understanding of Self and others will incorporate the work of the multicultural competency team
 - (5) Academic capacity will focus on critical thought in and out of the classroom and connecting with professors
 - (6) Wellness will include awareness of self-care. Will be piloting a wellness ambassadors in two residence halls next year. We will also be doing more focused training with the resident advisors
 - iii) Student Employment
 - (1) Started by looking at current programs and how it engages student learning
 - (2) Currently have about 800 student employees within the division
 - (3) Student employment is a high impact practice for students

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- (4) Held student focus groups in the fall
 - (5) Broke down student employees into generalist, specialist, and supervisory groups
 - (6) On campus gives students more flexibility and access to resources
 - (7) Feedback from students said that onboarding and continual training should be improved. Students also want more feedback from their supervisors
 - (8) Identified important components: student learning, create clear expectations and learning outcomes, clear expectations, helping students connect skillsets from their jobs to skills employers would like to see, performance evaluation and providing feedback, student support, creation of an information center
- iv) Questions
- (1) Senator Ditch: Diversity is a word that some people are afraid of. How will you address students who do not believe that concepts such as privilege exists or deny diversity in our community?
 - (a) The conversations should start early and build a platform that diversity exists. The implementation plan will be staged by years to start with the basics and work towards deeper conversations.
 - (2) (2) What sort of level of familiarity are you aiming for students to have with these terms?
 - (a) It will be a staged process. It will involve many different departments. We do not expect that all students will graduate at the same stage. We do however hope that through certain experiences students are exposed to the information and applying it to their life. We do not have a specific baseline set currently but are looking for feedback on what the minimum should be
 - (3) Senator LoPiccolo: How do you expect to measure the outcomes? How will they be used?
 - (a) Currently we have 15 departments that do assessment of the specific goals of the department. Each team is creating learning outcomes that can be measured as a result of this process. It starts with priority of learning and then looking at how we can help students get there. We are aiming for direct assessment through interactions with students.
 - (4) Senator Vogt: In terms of Residential Education, have you considered the relationship SLU has with Harris Stowe?
 - (a) We have started some initiatives to form a stronger relationship with them.
 - (5) Senator O'Donnell: Have you thought about commuter students and how they fit into this plan?
 - (a) We can better use collaborations to form some partnerships.
 - (6) Senator Habli: What is the time frame of this project? What is the relationship between student and faculty learning objectives?
 - (a) Each team will include a timeline with each of the objectives they present. Some will be implemented next year and some will take longer. We will likely form task forces for implementation. In terms of working with the faculty, it is something we know is important but is not directly under our department.
 - (7) Senator Kennedy: With this process how are we coming to know SLU? The aspirations seem to want to shift the culture within the division. What is the current culture and how is the culture a barrier? What is the outreach like to the

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non-leaders within the division? Are we able to think of new responses to the issues we are facing? What do you mean by needing resources? Is that the best response to the issue?

(a) Structurally we have such a large division that the leadership have been asked to help with the project. However, many other members served on these teams. From a cultural standpoint, we have identified values around which we can work. The complexity requires some sort of resource center as a mechanism for staff across the division.

(8) Senator Lyons: What are you looking to make mandatory? We have lots of opportunities to be more culturally competent that are not well attended. Is there a way we can expand requirements to require more exposure? With residential education, RAs should have training on red flags in rooms. Sometimes it seems overly difficult for someone to receive a room reassignment?

(a) Student feedback dictated that they learned how to get along with others from living on campus. We hope to salvage some relationships so that the first step is not just moving students without some sort of arbitration. In terms of things being mandatory, many things are not under the locus of our control. We would love to have a core course about diversity, but that is not something we can control. We are trying to partner with schools to put in more of these types of requirement. Those requirements are most likely outside of the scope of the aspiration team. We are focusing on experiences that we can control and try to be as effective as possible within the division.

7) Old Business

a) Ms. Emily Bley, SGA Vice President of Diversity and Social Justice, (SB054-16): To amend Section III, Article J of the Student Government Association's Bylaws, which would revise the structure of the Diversity Leadership Cabinet (DLC).

i) Introduction: This is the second time you have seen this bill.

ii) Questions:

(1) Call to Question

iii) Bill Passes (27-0-0)

8) New Business

a) Mr. Ronald Clark, SGA Vice President of Finance (SB056-16): To provide Spot Funding to OneWorld.

i) Introduction: One World is a student led magazine. They received a zero dollar allotment. At the time of annual funding, they were unsure of the travel costs for their speaker. They have been allotted money for a flight and hotel for the speaker. This is the 10 year anniversary of the magazine

ii) Questions:

(1) Senator O'Donnell: Can you provide the logistics? How many people do you expect to attend? Is it applicable to people outside of One World?

(a) One World is a social justice oriented magazine. He will be speaking about social justice in general. The event will be in Boileau Hall. We usually have 80-100 people at the magazine reveals.

(2) Questions and Debate:

(a) Senator Teson: The OneWorld magazine reveals are really great events. I fully support this.

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- (3) Bill Passes (27-0-0)
- b) Mr. Ronald Clark, SGA Vice President of Finance (SB057-16): To provide FASCO with Wellness funding.
- i) Introduction: FASCO has requested funding for hammocks. The funding will pay for 6 hammocks. We worked out a deal with Facilities that they will cover the other costs. The hammocks will be scattered around campus. We think it will be a good experience for students to relax and be outside on campus.
 - ii) Questions:
 - (1) Senator Kennedy: It looks like there are only 3 locations on the map. Where are the others?
 - (a) Some locations will have more than 1 hammock placed.
 - (2) Senator O'Donnell: What happens if they need to be repaired?
 - (a) It will be covered by facilities.
 - iii) Questions and Debate:
 - (1) Senator Tucci: Did SGA fund the current hammocks on campus?
 - (a) Yes it was a student initiative.
 - iv) Bill Passes (28-0-0)
- c) Mr. Ronald Clark, SGA Vice President of Finance (SB058-16): To provide Korean Students' Association with Wellness funding.
- i) Introduction: Korean Student Association is bringing in a drumming group and KPOP dance group for an Atlas Week. We are providing funding for food and AV support. Atlas is matching funds that we will provide. The groups will be authentic Korean cultural groups.
 - ii) Questions: none
 - iii) Questions and Debate:
 - (1) Senator O'Donnell: Can you talk about your group in general and what you do on campus?
 - (a) KSA holds 2-3 events each semester. We have Korean movie showings about once a month. Many of our events include authentic food.
 - (2) (2) Can you talk a bit about advertising of the event?
 - (a) We estimate about 250 attendees. We collaborated with Atlas Week for additional publicity. We have advertised through Facebook and posters around campus
 - (3) Senator Ditch: We should definitely fund this. Events like this are what will make SLU a more inclusive campus.
 - iv) Bill Passes (28-0-0)
- d) Mr. Ronald Clark, SGA Vice President of Finance (SB059-16): To provide Student Bar Association with Wellness funding.
- i) Introduction: This will provide funding for Student Bar Association Wellness Week. The one hosted in the fall was successful. The events will include healthy cooking presentations, presentations on wellness, and food for the events. They will also be providing chair massages for students. Bubble Soccer will also be offered.
 - ii) Questions:
 - (1) Senator Reddy: What is the time constraint on this bill?
 - (a) The wellness week is April 4-8. They need the funding tonight.
 - (2) Senator Kennedy: Can you explain the lunch for next week lack of funding?

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- (a) The lunch for the week was presented as a prize for a competition during wellness week. We decided it is a prize which is something we do not usually fund.
- (3) Senator Lyons: Did the Rec Center fee get waived?
 - (a) As far as I know yes.
- iii) Questions and Debate
 - (1) Committee Rep Budd: Where will these events take place?
 - (a) It will be mostly law students involved. It will all be in the law school building during the lunch hour.
 - (2) Senator O'Donnell: I support this bill. There are a lot of opportunities for undergrads but less programming for graduate students
 - (3) Senator Ford: The American Bar Association has an initiative for mental health. We will be implementing mental health activities. This week will really help the law students to relax.
- iv) Bill Passes (28-0-0)
- e) Mr. Kevin Lynch, SGA Vice President of Academic Affairs; and Mr. Mike Degnan, SGA Vice President for Student Organizations (SB060-16): To increase the number of First-Year Senate seats to four
 - i) Introduction: This bill probably looks pretty familiar. Reflecting on our years in SGA, we think that increasing the number of seats will help SGA be more relevant on campus. We think this is critical for the long term success of the organization.
 - ii) Questions:
 - (1) Senator Ditch: When you were freshman, how many first year seats were there?
 - (a) There were five first year seats. In addition, every residence hall on campus had a seat. Most of those seats were filled by first position.
 - (2) (2) What was the rationale for lowering the number of seats?
 - (a) We went through a full senate reform and cut down a large number of seats across the board to make senate more efficient.
 - iii) Questions and Debate:
 - (1) Senator Reddy: One of the points you are making is that freshmen need additional representation because of freshman specific concerns. By increasing the number of seats, you are aiming to increase retention though?
 - (a) The main point of this bill is to ensure that the organization is sustainable for years to come.
 - (2) (2) How do you define sustainability in SGA?
 - (a) You want people to advance through the organizations. You want to have enough people to run for the executive board.
 - (3) (3) I appreciate that retention is really important. The organization is formed through elections by the student body. If we keep adding seats, we may again reach a point that we are inefficient. I think we need to approach a retention problem from a different angle, not just adding seats.
 - (4) Senator Poche: People underestimate the way in which getting involved on campus can help people attach to campus. Being a part of SGA can help form an identity for first year students
 - (5) Senator LoPiccolo: There is a mentality that freshmen have different problems. This is not the case. Freshmen just have different ideas and we should create a

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- space for that
- (6) Senator Farmer: I have been in SGA for the past 4 years. The reform was healthy for the organizations. This is the first official year of using this format. We may need to make some revisions to meet the needs of the organizations. I support this bill. We have to trust that the SGA next year and the freshmen that come in will do a good job. We need to have faith in the future.
- (7) Senator Vogt: I do support this bill. We have talked a lot about sustainability and retention. Our purpose is to provide a voice for the students. We need to make an effort to outreach to CSOs and students to be more relevant on campus.
- (8) VP Degnan: At the beginning of the year, we had over 50 applications for first year senate seats. We lost many potential members. Some of them are committee reps and have been committed. There is definitely interest from the first year students. Being in Senate my freshman year was really formative for me. We need to provide that experience to other students.
- (9) Senator Lucas: What is anything prevents first year students for occupying open seats within their schools?
- (a) They are not here for elections. If there are open seats they can fill in.
- (10) (2) I am opposed to this because this does not seem to solve the problem we are having. We have many open seats that we should be talking up to our peers about our experiences. If we had a full senate previously, this may be more pertinent
- (11) Senator Kennedy: This is definitely not the only answer, but it is a step in the right direction. This is a complex problem that will require a complex solution. We should capitalize on the excitement the first few weeks of first year students. Not expanding the opportunities for first year students could cause us to miss out on some great candidates.
- (12) Senator Varner: Mentorship is really important within SGA. The seniors last year were really key to my experience in SGA and my desire to continue.
- (13) Senator O'Donnell: The problem with the open seats that we have is that those seats are hard to fill. The seats freshman would be filling are consistently full. This does not have to be a permanent thing. We can try it based on something that worked in the past, but it can be changed in the future if it does not work the way we want it to.
- (14) Senator Reddy: Retention is becoming an issue in SGA. The students that are really motivated will find a way to be involved. The problem is not specifically with retention because it is an elected body. The body should change based on the will of voters. We are lacking in the level of activity within senate. We want to get to a place where people are competing for the seats. This cannot be solved with just adding more seats. We have 2 seats that are filled and we are able to pull from the best candidates possible.
- (15) Senator Martin: Senator Vogt and I are both humanities major. Providing more seats for freshman would provide more opportunities for students of other colleges.
- (16) VP Degnan: Freshman can be in other seats, but that is a separate issue that those are not filled. It is a lot to through a first year student into a school seat because it is a different set of responsibilities. We should not work under the

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assumption that we will fail in the future

- (17) Senator Ditch: I was one of those students that was super excited to get involved. I obviously ended up here, and am so glad that I have had this opportunity. It has really helped me connect to campus. Having not got this seat, I probably would not have run for a seat in subsequent years
- (18) Senator Lucas: I don't think it is a matter of opening up new seats. We need a better mentorship program. Wouldn't the incoming freshmen still need to be appointed to a seat? We need to identify leaders who want to be here and fill those seats. Those could sit empty as well.
- (a) We turn away so many good candidates because of the limited number of first year seats. Luckily we had some empty seats to fill and were able to provide more students seats. The other first year senators in the room are here because the system is broken.
- (19) Senator Haywood: We had so many good candidates during the application process. We need that energy in Senate. It would be very smart to add these seats
- (20) Senator Ford: Motion to table the bill until the next senate meeting—
motion passes by majority vote
- f) Mr. Ben O'Donnell, Senator for Parks College of Aviation and Technology; and Ms. Emily Varner; John Cook School of Business Senator (SB061-16): To revise and edit the current SGA constitution to reflect the current practices of SGA.
- i) Introduction: This is technically a new constitution of a series of minor changes to the original. The changes we made reflect the way SGA currently operates. These are the big changes that will be presented. We also made grammatical changes. We changed the name to Saint Louis University Student Government. We added a purpose statement. We removed the sovereign member term and replaced it with a definition of students and equivalency definition. We changed the language about the number of academic seats. We removed the Student Organization cabinet because it is not currently functioning. We removed the judicial branch because it has been reincorporated to other parts of the university. We also cleaned up the voting language for clarification.
- ii) Questions:
- (1) Senator English: Can you go back a few slides? The GIC sounds interesting
- (2) Senator Lucas: Can you go back to the slide about college seats? It seems confusing.
- (a) Yes.
- (3) Senator Reddy: What do you mean by if necessary adjust?
- (a) They would be able to change the number of college seats based on a vote of the senate. The numbers in the constitution reflect the minimum number of seats. Seats above 2 will be passed through senate each year before elections. It forces yearly monitoring of the seats
- (4) Senator Vogt: Why did we change the name?
- (a) It comes back to how we are referred to by students.
- (5) Senator English: Motion to end questions—passes by majority vote
- iii) Questions and Debate:
- (1) Senator English: I think the language on the number of seats is really good. It is

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- very simple and does not require amendments to change the seats
- (2) Senator Lucas: Motion to amend the name of the association by removing the strike through. It should say here and after referred to as Saint Louis University Student Government Association.
- (a) Amendment is friendly
- (3) Senator Ford: Is there a process to add and take away seats?
- (a) The changes would take place at the end of the year.
- (4) Senator Kennedy: Motion to amend the constitution to amend the chaplain description.
- (a) Amendment is hostile.
- (b) Introduction: Right now the constitution says that the chaplain must be a Jesuit. I think that should be expanded to anyone willing to be a spiritual guide and lead the prayer each week. In reality the number of Jesuits on campus is decreasing. This amendment would make finding a chaplain easier.
- (c) Questions:
- (i) Senator Kennedy: Motion to move to questions and debate—approved
- (d) Questions and debate
- (i) Senator LoPiccolo: I think that this is a good amendment
- (ii) Senator Lucas: Does this amendment mean that the chaplain must be Jesuit?
1. No, it could be anyone willing to serve in the role.
- (e) Amendment Passes (28-0-0)
- iv) Questions and Debate
- (1) Senator Lucas: Motion to table the bill for 1 week.—approved by majority vote
- 9) Open Forum
- a) Senator Lucas: On Monday night, the School of Education is hosting an Atlas Week event on disability inclusion. There will be free burritos to the first few students that come out. The event will be at Il Montestero at 6pm
- b) Senator English: The One World Event is April 19 at 7pm at Boileau
- c) VP Lynch: The committee chairs for next year will be elected this spring. We will be seating the DLC co-chair as well. Please apply if you are interested
- d) Senator Varner: Billikon Valley is tomorrow night from 5-7pm. Sports Business Associations is selling Cardinals tickets for April 15. \$20 for students. Email me if you are interested
- e) Senator Ditch: There is an upcoming volunteer opportunity on April 8-10. Let me know if you are interested.
- f) Senator O'Donnell: Thank you for your feedback. Please read through the constitution and continue to provide feedback. We are working on the bylaws as well
- g) Senator Lucas: Thank you to President Bryant for taking the feedback and helping getting a crosswalk put in on Lindell.
- h) Senator Kennedy: Young Jesuits are offering Spiritual Exercises retreat next fall. We will be offering it to about 15 students who would be interest in participating in the Spiritual Exercises throughout the year. It would be a weekly meeting for 9 months. You do need to be Christian based on the nature of the retreat.
- i) Senator Lee: April 8 as part of Atlas Week, BSA will have our Reggae Night
- 10) Executive Reports

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- a) VP Lynch
 - i) We have narrowed down the Associate Provost candidates to 2 candidates. There will be lunches held for student feedback
 - ii) Please nominate faculty for Faculty Excellence Awards
 - iii) Please take the academic advising survey. It was sent out on Tuesday. Please be honest. Dr. Brickhouse will see the results
 - iv) Senator Lyons brought up the point about making a course mandatory. President's Advisory Council discussed making intergroup dialogue a requirement. Dr. Brickhouse is aware of the issue and committed to improving it.
 - v) Met with USA Today about the readership program. The UNews was in favor of the app. I am meeting with Marissa Cope next week about the results of the readership survey.
- b) VP Bley
 - i) April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. SGA is co-sponsoring a showing of the Hunting Ground on April 18 from 6-8pm.
 - ii) Dr. Hart is presenting at the end of the month
 - iii) We are currently in the process of reviewing the sexual misconduct policy. They have formed a focus group of students. If you have any thoughts or feedback let me know
 - iv) Thank you for passing the DLC legislation! We are taking steps towards making this a more inclusive campus
 - v) Bias Incident follow-up. I feel like there needs to be more systematic changes to the way we approach diversity. I have been working with Donna and David about making some changes. We all looking at changes to what counts as diversity within the curriculum. The Oath event is being transformed in the near future as a way for students to reclaim the oath. I have also been in talks about changing FYE structure to include more diversity.
- c) VP Clark
 - i) Thanks for all the Wellness and Finance discussions today
 - ii) Annual Funding Hearings start this weekend. Appeals are on April 16.
 - iii) MOEP looked at data on SLU cost and revenue at our last meeting. Let me know if you have questions
- d) VP Degnan
 - i) We received 20 applications for office space. The committee met yesterday to review the applications and invited groups to present
 - ii) Leadership Transitions went well. Feedback was positive
 - iii) Intent to Return form is due Friday. An email will be sent as a reminder to CSOs.
 - iv) Student Involvement Center has 4 intern positions open for next year. They are also starting an Involvement Ambassador position. Applications will be due April 1 for both
 - v) We are introducing a new leadership model called Billikens LEAD. It will be used next year
- e) VP Abijaoude
 - i) Atlas Week is next week. Kickoff is Sunday from 5-7. International Affairs committee is hosting a session on culture shock on Friday
- f) VP Loseille

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- i) Sign up for Relay for Life. Relay is on April 16
 - ii) Showers of Service is April 23. We will have an SGA team.
 - iii) Our last senate meeting will be April 20. April 27 will be our SGA Excellence Awards in Pere Marquette Gallery.
 - iv) Please nominate students for the SGA Excellence Awards
 - v) Please RSVP for the banquet so we have a count for food.
 - g) President Bryant
 - i) The first year RAs and LC Mentors got Metro passes as well
 - ii) 43% overall ridership usage of the Metro. It is 64% of the students who actually picked up the pass
 - iii) The SGA Presidents of all the Jesuit universities signed a document to support diversity and inclusion efforts on campus.
 - iv) Thank you to those who attended the Topping Off ceremony
- 11) Adjourned—8:37pm